

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

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If the maintenance history storage unit 320 is not empty, in step 130, the maintenance control section 310 acquires the date and time of the maintenance last carried out from the maintenance history storage unit ~~230~~ 320 and stores it in register B. It is possible to change this step S130 so as to acquire the date and time of the last maintenance out of those that were carried out with no problem found in the apparatus-to-be-maintained. With this change, more practical quality of maintenance can be displayed.

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Another means for detecting incorrect operation of the timer 330 would be such that the maintenance center 200 accesses the maintenance monitor mechanism 300 by communication 100, reads the indication of the timer 330, and judges whether the difference between the indication and the present time controlled by the maintenance center is within an allowable limit. Displaying this error on the display unit 350 or reporting it to the operator in the maintenance center if not allowable enables to prevent an error of the timer ~~300~~ 330. Besides, since the timer 330 is normally driven by a battery inside, incorrect operation of the timer 330 can be prevented by checking whether the battery driving the timer has run down instead of checking the present time acquired from the timer.

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First, in step S200, the maintenance management section 201 of the maintenance center ~~201~~ 200 waits for a primary factor for carrying out remote maintenance. Remote maintenance is carried out due to a primary factor that the maintenance service personnel of the maintenance center needs to carry out maintenance for emergency, maintenance (including periodic maintenance) is to be carried out automatically at a timing pre-determined by the maintenance center, or a request for maintenance (including periodic maintenance if periodic maintenance control is included in the maintenance monitor mechanism) is issued from the maintenance monitor mechanism installed at the apparatus-to-be-maintained.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend Fig. 1 as set forth in the attached Request for Approval of Drawing Correction.